Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 2003-2004

Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs

Saskatchewan Centennial 2005

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Additional copies of this annual report may be downloaded from our department website at: *http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/publications.htm*

Our main website address is: *http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/*

Ministers' Letter of Transmittal

The Honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

It is our privilege to submit to you the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Atkinson
Minister responsible for Immigration

Joan Beatty
Provincial Secretary

Maynard Sonntag
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

Len Taylor
Minister of Government Relations

Deputy Minister's Letter of Transmittal

The Honourable Pat Atkinson
Minister Responsible for Immigration

The Honourable Joan Beatty
Provincial Secretary

The Honourable Maynard Sonntag
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

The Honourable Len Taylor
Minister of Government Relations

Dear Ministers:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Brent Cotter
Deputy Minister
Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs
Deputy Provincial Secretary

Introduction

This annual report describes results for the key actions and performance measures that were published in the department's 2002-03 Annual Report, which was released in July 2003. The department's annual reports and performance plans can be downloaded from the department's website at the following address:
http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/publications.htm

This annual report also describes results associated with the key actions included in *Our Plan for 2003-04*, the government-wide plan released with the 2003-04 budget, available on the Internet at: *http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/budget/budget03/ourplan.pdf*

Enhancements to this annual report are tied to continued implementation of the provincial government's Accountability Framework. For the first time, our 2003-04 Annual Report contains results associated with a previously-released performance plan. In addition, our reporting on financial results has been expanded to include revenue.

Reporting actual year-end results – both financial and performance – as compared to previously-released performance measures increases accountability to the public.

The department's 2004-05 Performance Plan was released with the provincial budget on March 31, 2004 and can be downloaded from the department's website at:
http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/publications.htm

Who We Are

Mandate
The mandate of the Department of Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs (GRAA) is to promote Saskatchewan's interests through management of the province's relations with other governments, in Canada and abroad, and to work with Aboriginal peoples and their organizations to advance our common interests.

The department works in partnership with communities to support local governance, provide financial and technical support and develop legislation, regulations and other policies to meet the changing needs of municipal governments.

The department also coordinates and manages matters related to Government House, French-language services, official protocol, provincial honours, and provides administrative services to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Vision
GRAA's divisions work collectively, in an integrated fashion, toward the department's vision that:

- The citizenship of Saskatchewan people is enriched by:
  - ~ creating and maintaining respectful, responsive and effective partnerships between governments in Saskatchewan, Canada and abroad;
  - ~ the full and equitable participation of Aboriginal people in the province's social and economic life;
  - ~ celebrating our heritage and honouring our achievements.

Key programs and services
The department is comprised of four divisions: Intergovernmental Relations, Municipal Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Provincial Secretary. These divisions work collectively, in an integrated fashion, to fulfill the department's mandate through the delivery of a variety of programs and services.

Intergovernmental Relations
Intergovernmental Relations manages inter-provincial/territorial relations and relations with the federal government to strategically advance Saskatchewan's economic, social and constitutional interests.

In addition to this Canadian focus, the division has an international focus that includes immigration, trade policy and international relations.

Immigration-related services include promoting economic immigration to our province – enhancing Saskatchewan business opportunities, providing skilled workers and helping to improve settlement and integration services for immigrants and refugees.

Trade-policy-related services include policy development and negotiation of market access rules with other governments, both domestic and international.

International relations services include consultation with departments and agencies in the development and implementation of policies and programs for Saskatchewan's relations with foreign governments and international organizations.

The Office of French-language Coordination (OFLC) enhances the access of the Francophone community to the provincial government.

Municipal Relations
The Municipal Relations Division works in partnership with 491 urban municipalities, 296 rural municipalities and 24 northern municipalities and their related associations to strengthen local governance for the benefit of Saskatchewan residents.

We provide financial, advisory and community planning services to municipalities to assist them in meeting the needs of their residents.

We maintain a legislative and regulatory framework that defines municipal responsibilities and powers and balances local municipal autonomy with accountability and the protection of provincial and public interests.

We provide advice to government on property tax policy, revaluations and the governance and structure of, and funding for, the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency.

The department is responsible for the administration and operations of communities in the Northern

Saskatchewan Administration District and the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account.

Aboriginal Affairs
The department works with First Nations and Métis people and communities to increase the participation of First Nations and Métis people in the social and economic life of Saskatchewan.

Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs coordinates the Strategy for Métis and Off-Reserve First Nations People which integrates action by 12 provincial departments to address education, skills training, work preparation, employment and economic development, and individual and community well-being for First Nations and Métis people in the province.

Our Aboriginal Employment Development Program (AEDP) helps to increase employment and training opportunities through partnerships involving First Nations and Métis organizations, unions and public and private sector employers.

We administer Saskatchewan's legal obligations pursuant to the Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Settlement Agreements.

We participate in self-government discussions at tables involving the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC) and the federal government.

The department participates in bilateral and tripartite processes to examine issues of mutual concern and Métis organizational governance involving the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MNS).

Provincial Secretary
The Provincial Secretary includes the Office of the Lieutenant Governor which supports the Lieutenant Governor in carrying out her constitutional responsibilities and her goal to be accessible to the people of Saskatchewan through visits and by attending events and functions.

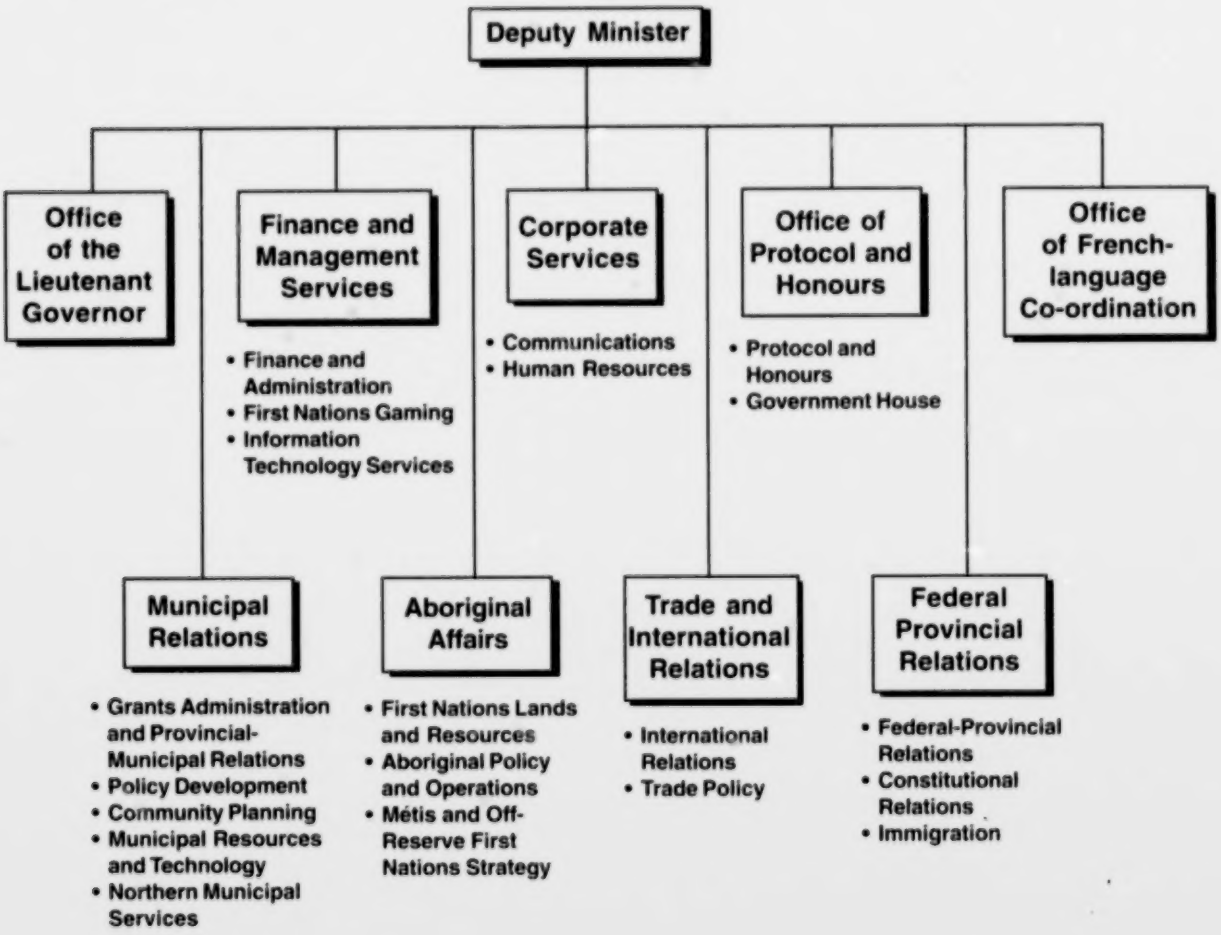
The Provincial Secretary also includes the Government House Heritage Property which combines a museum, hospitality facility and the offices of the Lieutenant Governor in one of Saskatchewan's premier historic sites, and is preparing a major development project to mark the provincial centennial in 2005.

Through the Office of Protocol and Honours, GRAA is responsible for managing a comprehensive honours and awards program and for organizing a wide range of official visits from diplomats, foreign delegations and members of the Royal Family.

Service-delivery system
The department employs more than 200 people, with offices in Regina, Saskatoon, La Ronge and Buffalo Narrows.

Organizational changes
The department did not undergo any significant organizational changes during 2003-04.

Organization Chart
As of March 31, 2004:



2003-04 Results At A Glance

The department made significant progress in advancing its major goals in 2003-04. Following are highlights of the most significant performance results by strategic goal:

Key Accomplishments

The aspirations of Saskatchewan's Aboriginal people are understood and realized within the broader Saskatchewan community.

- Finalized and released progress reports for the Strategy for Métis and Off-Reserve First Nations People which integrates action plans of 12 provincial departments to address education, skills training, work preparation, employment and economic development and individual and community well-being for Aboriginal people.

- Strengthened the Aboriginal Employment Development Program by signing 13 new partnership agreements and compiling data indicating that the number of First Nations and Métis people hired by partnership organizations increased to 1,734 as at March 31, 2003.

Canada's constitutionally recognized communities and people are acknowledged, respected and supported within our province and federation.

- Supported Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Agreements resulting in an increase of 122,526 new acres attaining reserve status.

- Established a Provincial French-language Services Policy with service goals to support communication, service delivery and development, and consultation – with the Francophone community and provincial departments and agencies to coordinate French language services.

Saskatchewan's social, economic, and constitutional interests are advanced, and its values are recognized and reflected, within a strong, united Canadian federation and within the international community.

- Advanced Saskatchewan's position in relation to the new National Health Council and the Council of the Federation.

- Participated in negotiations to conclude a self-government agreement between the Meadow Lake Tribal Council, Canada and Saskatchewan, and in the development of an Agreement-in-Principle that will form the basis for the negotiation of a self-government agreement between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Canada and Saskatchewan.

- Provided strategic policy advice to government on matters with intergovernmental policy implications including Kyoto/climate change; the Action Committee on the Rural Economy, equalization funding, and the cleanup of abandoned uranium mines in northern Saskatchewan, the Cold Lake (Primrose) Air Weapons Range and the Agricultural Policy Framework.

- Advanced strategic plans to attract more skilled workers and economic immigrants to the province as a tool to meet the needs of Saskatchewan's labour market, and nominated 180 principal applicants under the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program in 2003-04.

- Supported market access for Saskatchewan's exports by consulting with stakeholders to define and defend Saskatchewan's objectives in ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization, Free Trade Area of the Americas, North American Free Trade Agreement, and the Agreement on Internal Trade.

- In concert with local stakeholders and the federal government, defended the province's market access and other trade-related interests in trade disputes with the United States on softwood lumber, wheat, live swine and the U.S. Farm Act.

Respectful, effective municipal-provincial relationships that strengthen the quality of local governance for the benefit of Saskatchewan residents.

- Provided $13.5 million under the Canada-Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program (CSIP) to 78 water and sewer projects and $5.3 million under the Northern Water and Sewer Program to 18 projects.
- Increased revenue sharing funding by 15.4 per cent for a total of $75 million.
- In partnership with municipal associations, designed and implemented a Municipal Leadership Development Program to provide professional development opportunities to elected and appointed municipal officials.
- Developed and delivered presentations to administrators and elected officials on legislative changes, local government election processes, tax enforcement, financial reporting, budgeting, and software operation.
- Implemented a new financial return form that aids municipalities in meeting Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) Standards and provided training to municipal staff on its use.
- Developed and implemented video conferencing sites in eight northern communities.
- Added bylaw samples, an online interactive directory and new online forms to the department's website, increasing the ability of municipalities to access information.
- Established a new Municipal Forum as a process for the provincial government and urban and rural municipal sectors to work collaboratively to coordinate and address key municipal issues.
- Advanced legislative reform by establishing a working committee with municipal associations to draft a consolidated urban/ rural municipal act.
- Reviewed the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency's (SAMA) funding needs and the Boughen Commission recommendations for a strengthened assessment system, and supported government decisions resulting in increased funding for SAMA, a greater role for school boards respecting the agency, and new processes for assessment roll confirmation, audit and quality assurance.

Saskatchewan's identity, heritage and the achievements of our people are honoured, promoted and celebrated.

- Received an increased number of nominees for provincial honours from rural and small urban communities but did not achieve the goal of increased nominations including Aboriginal people and women due to limitations on resources available to promote the nomination process.
- Supported legislative amendments to establish the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal and the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal.
- Designed and implemented a government-wide employee recognition program.
- Produced advertising and public relations materials to build profile for Government House as a tourism destination point, and managed the expansion of the heritage property.

Summary of 2003-04 Financial Results

In 2003-04, the department's budget for expenditures was $190.346 million. Actual expenditures were $187.003 million or $3.343 million below the authorized spending level. This under-expenditure is a result of lower than anticipated funding requirements for TLE settlements and tax loss compensation, and grants-in-lieu of property taxes.

The 2003-04 department revenue budget was $11.9 million. Actual 2003-04 revenues were $11.865 million, a variance of $.035 million. The net decrease is primarily a result of cost-shared agreement adjustments.

2003-04 Performance Results

The purpose of this section is to report on and explain the detailed performance results associated with all key actions and performance measures in the department's 2003-04 performance plan. The key actions presented in our 2003-04 plan are listed below, followed by a report on our actual progress for each. Actual results information is included for all key actions and performance measures that were published in our 2003-04 performance plan. Further information about the department's performance measures is in our 2003-04 performance plan, available on our website at: *http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/publications.htm*

Goal 1 – The aspirations of Saskatchewan's Aboriginal people are understood and realized within the broader Saskatchewan community.

Objective 1 – Aboriginal people are actively engaged in the economic and social life of the province.

Given the current and projected demographics of the province, GRAA is working to increase the level of participation by First Nations and Métis people in all aspects of Saskatchewan's society. First Nations and Métis youth are participating in the workforce at a rate of 39 per cent, compared to a 71 per cent participation rate for non-Aboriginal youth. The comparatively low median age (20 years of age) and the projected increase of the proportion of First Nations and Métis people in the province to 20 per cent over the next 10 to 12 years are important trends that must be addressed.

Engaging First Nations and Métis people and creating representative participation in the workforce, education systems and the private and public sector economies will ensure the province can build and expand its economy into the future.

The department was able to continue to demonstrate progress in meeting this objective during 2003-04. The department engaged in further consultation on the Strategy for Métis and Off-Reserve First Nations People and released progress reports on the strategy for activities in the years 2001-02 and 2002-03. The Aboriginal Employment Development Program supported the engagement of First Nations and Métis people by signing eight additional partnership agreements. Progress was also demonstrated by employer organizations in their efforts to recruit, hire, and train First Nations and Métis people and introduce cultural awareness training to the workplace.

Key Results

- Monitor, coordinate and manage the implementation of the Strategy for Métis and Off-Reserve First Nations People. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The critical analysis of action plan initiatives for the Strategy for Métis and Off-Reserve First Nations People is in progress. Progress reports for 2001-02 and 2002-03 are complete and available on the department website at: *http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca/aboriginal/MOR.pdf*

- Through the Aboriginal Employment Development Program (AEDP), the department will:

  (a) Increase the number of executive government departments, Crown corporations, employer and Aboriginal organizations engaged with the AEDP by eight. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, 13 new partnership agreements have been signed with: Saskatchewan Learning; Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association; Battlefords Tribal Council; Saulteaux First Nation; Prince Albert Parkland Health Region; Mamawetan Churchill Health Region; Sun Country Health Region; Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization; Kelsey Trail Health Region; Saskatchewan Federation of Labour; Parkland Regional College; Saskatoon Public School Board; and Access Communications Cooperative Ltd.

  (b) Increase the number of Aboriginal people hired in partnership organizations by 10 per cent, from approximately 1,500 in

2002-03 to approximately 1,650 in 2003-04. [2003-04 planned result]

- As of March 31, 2003, 1,734 First Nations and Métis people had been hired by partners, an increase of 21 per cent over the previous year. Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer. The department will continue to report on progress made in the previous year in its annual report.

(c) Increase the number of people receiving Aboriginal cultural awareness education in partnership organizations by 30 per cent. [2003-04 planned result]

- As of March 31, 2003, 4,074 people had received cultural awareness training in partner organizations, an increase of 64 per cent over the previous year's level.

  Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer. The department will continue to report on progress made in the previous year in its annual report.

(d) Prepare workplaces to reduce barriers and increase access to jobs for Aboriginal people. [2003-04 planned result]

- When discussing the program with potential partners, the department provides details on how partner organizations can prepare their workplaces to welcome First Nations and Métis people. This includes providing the suggestion for cultural awareness training and contact information for facilitators. The department also encourages partner organizations to consider on-the-job training for First Nations and Métis employees to increase retention. These subjects are also part of ongoing discussions at Steering Committee meetings. As of March 31, 2003, 929 First Nations and Métis people hired by partner organizations had received work-based training, a 25 per cent increase over the previous year. Work-based training improved opportunities for First Nations and Métis people to advance in the workplace. Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer. The department will continue to report on progress made in the previous year in its annual report.

(e) Conduct employee and economic audits with new partner employers and communicate audit information to the Aboriginal community. [2003-04 planned result]

- GRAA has completed employment audits involving five urban municipalities in Saskatchewan. These audits capture and offer detailed descriptions of thousands of jobs in Saskatchewan cities.
- GRAA continues to communicate job opportunities and encourage training and education linked to jobs for First Nations and Métis people. To assist in this endeavor, the department is developing an on-line data base of partnership employer job audit information. In addition, the department is creating a job chart of partner organizations for distribution to First Nations and Métis communities.

■ Engage organized labour in partnerships with employers to develop language for inclusion in collective agreements that support Aboriginal participation in the workforce. [2003-04 planned result]

- GRAA has signed two new partnership agreements involving unions in Saskatchewan: the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) signed a partnership with GRAA; and the

Saskatchewan Government Employees Union (SGEU) signed partnerships with GRAA in conjunction with new partnerships with Kelsey Trail Health Region and the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region.

- The existing partnership unions in the health sector are actively involved in the Representative Workforce Strategy and are often signatories in new partnerships with health regions, including the recent partnerships with the Prince Albert Parkland Health Region; the Sun Country Health Region, Mamawetan Churchill Health Region, and the Kelsey Trail Health Region.
- GRAA is working with union partners to operationalize the commitments made for employment of First Nations and Métis people in collective agreements.

- In addition, the Premier of Saskatchewan and several Cabinet Ministers met with the Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and several FSIN executive members in June for the first meeting of the Bilateral Protocol. The Bilateral Protocol serves as a vehicle to discuss issues of common concern between the province and the FSIN.

Measurement Results

Number of partnership agreements under the Aboriginal Employment Development Program (AEDP).

As of March 31, 2003	As of March 31, 2004
41	54

Source: GRAA-AEDP data from information provided by partner employer organizations.

Thirteen new partnership agreements were signed in 2003-04, an increase of 32 per cent over the previous year.

Number of Aboriginal people hired in AEDP partnership employer organizations.

As of March 31, 2002	As of March 31, 2003	As of March 31, 2004
1,434	1,734	n/a

Source: GRAA-AEDP data from information provided by partner employer organizations.

As of March 31, 2003, 1,734 First Nations and Métis people had been hired by partners, an increase of 21 per cent over the previous year.

Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer of 2004. As a result, data for the 2003-04 fiscal year is not currently available. Our reporting on this measurement will be consistently one year behind due to this recurring time lag of four to five months in obtaining the source data from partners.

Number of people in AEDP partnership employer organizations who receive Aboriginal cultural awareness training.

As of March 31, 2002	As of March 31, 2003	As of March 31, 2004
2,589	4,074	n/a

Source: GRAA-AEDP data from information provided by partner employer organizations.

As of March 31, 2003, 4,074 people had received cultural awareness training, an increase of 64 per cent over the previous year.

Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer of 2004. As a result, data for the 2003-04 fiscal year is not currently available. Our reporting on this measurement will be consistently one year behind due to this recurring time lag of four to five months in obtaining the source data from partners.

Number of Aboriginal people hired by AEDP partnership employer organizations who receive work-based training.

As of March 31, 2002	As of March 31, 2003	As of March 31, 2004
743	929	n/a

Source: GRAA-AEDP data from information provided by partner employer organizations.

As of March 31, 2003, 929 First Nations and Métis people had received work-based training, a 25 per cent increase over the previous year.

Results for 2003-04 will be provided to the department by partner employers in the summer of 2004. As a result, data for the 2003-04 fiscal year is not currently available. Our reporting on this measurement will be consistently one year behind due to this recurring time lag of four to five months in obtaining the source data from partners.

To measure the performance of the AEDP, the department asks the various partners to complete and submit data on key actions for the program. Partners include employers, unions, First Nations and Métis communities, education and training institutions, and the three levels of government (provincial, federal and municipal). GRAA is regularly involved in steering committee meetings to work with partners in a joint effort to maximize the success of the program. The figures are cumulative. GRAA is dependent on the ability of its partners to voluntarily submit the information to the department, which assembles the data. Factors in the timeliness of reporting are the ability of third parties to provide the data to the department and limitations on the departmental resources available to support and work with client base partners regularly and collect and assemble the data.

Goal 2 – Canada's constitutionally recognized communities and people are acknowledged, respected and supported within our province and federation.

Objective 1 – First Nations land matters are resolved.

First Nations land matters are facilitated, managed and resolved in accordance with the provincial government's obligations under Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Agreements signed with the federal government and First Nations. In total, 29 Entitlement First Nations will receive $539 million over 12 years from Canada and Saskatchewan to purchase up to two million acres of land to add to their reserves.

The TLE process exists because First Nations did not, in all instances, receive the land that was promised to them in the Treaties. The Government of Saskatchewan has a legal obligation to work in partnership with the Government of Canada and First Nations to provide land, as stipulated in the *Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (1930)*. While Status Indians presently comprise around nine per cent of the people of Saskatchewan, reserve land, when the TLE process and specific claims are concluded, will comprise less than three per cent of the provincial land base.

TLE supports greater economic and social independence for First Nations and provides economic development opportunities for all members of the province.

The department exceeded its target for supporting TLE settlement agreements with the transfer of 122,526 acres.

Key Results

- Coordinate the implementation of the province's obligations arising from the Treaty Land Entitlement Settlement Agreements. The department anticipates approximately 100,000 additional acres will be transferred to reserve status in 2003-04. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, 597,882 acres had obtained reserve status under Treaty Land Entitlements Agreements, an increase of 26 per cent or 122,526 acres over the previous year.

- Negotiate new Treaty Land Entitlement agreements, as necessary. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The federal government has validated the Muskoday, Sturgeon Lake and Gordon First Nations' TLE claims. Negotiations to develop an agreement for Muskoday began in February 2004; the final agreement is not expected to be completed until the 2005-06 fiscal year. Negotiations to develop agreements for Sturgeon Lake and Gordon are expected to commence in 2004-05.

Measurement Results

Number of acres attaining reserve status under Treaty Land Entitlement agreements.

Cumulative as of March 31, 2002	Cumulative as of March 31, 2003	Cumulative as of March 31, 2004
438,379	475,356	597,882

Source: GRAA-TLE tracking system, based on schedules provided by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

As of March 31, 2004, 597,882 acres had obtained reserve status under Treaty Land Entitlement agreements, an increase of 26 per cent or 122,526 acres over the previous year.

GRAA accumulates and records data on acres transferred based on selections made by each Entitlement First Nation. Before a selection is transferred to reserve status, INAC provides a copy of the schedule of lands used with the federal Order-in-Council.

GRAA works with other provincial departments, Crown corporations and the federal government to ensure that Treaty Land Entitlement selections are handled in a timely manner in the reserve creation process. Reserve creation begins with Entitlement First Nations and ultimately results in an Order-in-Council that is passed by the federal government, which creates the reserve. Thus, the performance on this measure is dependent to a large degree on actions by First Nations and the federal government.

Delays may be caused by the complications in negotiations regarding the purchase of privately-owned lands, waterbody exclusions, legal survey requirements, negotiation of agreements, preparations of legal land descriptions, requests for mineral Orders-in-Council, requests for replacement public utility agreements, and removal of lands from *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act.*

Reserve creation may slow down in future years as the process has been underway since 1992 and 21 of the 26 original signatories to the Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement have achieved their shortfall acres.

Objective 2 – Enhance the delivery of French-language services in Saskatchewan in sectors important to Saskatchewan's Francophone community.

The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes the equitable access to provincial government services in French is essential to sustaining the Francophone community's development and its ability to maintain its contribution to the social economic and cultural development of Saskatchewan.

With the adoption of its French-language Services Policy in September 2003, the Government of Saskatchewan now has a practical overarching framework which sets out goals with respect to communication, service delivery and development, and consultation. The policy will provide a framework for current and future key actions.

Key Results

- Maintain an ongoing and effective consultation process between the Government of Saskatchewan and the Fransaskois community. This includes regular meetings of the Joint Liaison Committee (minimum four per year) and support to enable the committee to meet its objectives. [2003-04 planned result]

  - In addition to its new role as an advisory committee for the French-language Services Policy, the Joint Liaison Committee, through

its four regular meetings, continued to serve as a positive forum for discussion of issues vital to Fransaskois community development.

- Develop and support a network of departmental liaisons to facilitate partnerships with the Fransaskois community. This includes establishing a collaborative process whereby the departments/agencies keep the OFLC informed of upcoming projects and contact with the Fransaskois community. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The OFLC Department Liaison Network, which met three times in 2003-04, was a key mechanism in support of improved communication and strengthened working relationships, both within government and between departments and the Fransaskois community.
  - The OFLC supported a variety of French-language services projects by facilitating meetings between Fransaskois community organizations and provincial departments and agencies.

- Increase cooperation projects with federal, provincial and territorial counterparts in order to more effectively provide French-language services. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The OFLC continued to collaborate with counterparts in other jurisdictions and to work in partnership on joint projects with other departments and the federal government to enhance services to the Fransaskois community.
  - At the September 2003 Ministerial Conference on Francophone Affairs (MCFA), provincial and territorial ministers adopted an intergovernmental action plan with joint initiatives in many sectors to support the development of Francophone communities across Canada.

- Renew the Canada-Saskatchewan General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages (POL) for a new five-year period (2004-09). [2003-04 planned result]

  - At the September 2003 MCFA, officials were directed to develop joint measures to facilitate the renewal of the agreements including a model for core administrative elements and development of respective action plans relevant to Francophone community needs. OFLC is the Western representative on the working group struck for this purpose.
  - In March 2004, all existing POL agreements, including Saskatchewan's, were extended until March 31, 2005, by mutual consent of the Ministers responsible.

- Initiate the implementation process for the renewed POL Agreement. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As the current POL Agreement was extended for one year rather than renewed, this key action will go ahead in 2004-05.

- Evaluate the translation needs of government, departments and agencies. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The OFLC received more than 376 translation requests from more than 35 departments, agencies and commissions, with 406,765 words translated as of March 31, 2004, an increase of more than 100,000 words compared to the previous year.
  - An increase in the workload of the branch prevented the evaluation of translation needs from taking place. This evaluation will be integrated into internal consultations on the French-language Services Policy slated for summer/fall 2004.

- In addition to its planned results, the department supported the government's adoption of a French-language Services Policy on September 9, 2003. This policy provides a commitment to enhance French-language services and sets out goals with respect to communication, service delivery and development and consultation. It will be a practical overarching tool to support attainment of this objective.

Measurement Results
A performance measure related to this objective was under development in 2003-04. The department's 2004-05 performance plan contains a measure to gauge progress toward this objective in future years.

Goal 3 – Saskatchewan's social, economic, and constitutional interests are advanced, and its values are recognized and reflected, within a strong, united Canadian federation and within the international community.

Objective 1 – Saskatchewan makes maximum use of intergovernmental instruments and fora to ensure that developments within Canadian federalism are respectful of the constitution; enable the province to fulfill its responsibilities to citizens; and advance provincial policy priorities and interests.

Within the federation, the actions and policies of the federal government, and other governments, impact on Saskatchewan. It is important that Saskatchewan manage its intergovernmental relations in a fashion that impacts positively on these actions and policies in order that they support provincial interests and objectives, and that minimizes both risks and costs to the province.

During 2003-04, the department provided strategic and policy advice on a host of government priorities that served to successfully support this objective.

Key Results

- Ensure that Saskatchewan is fully prepared to address various institutional proposals for reforming the practice of federalism. [2003-04 planned result]
  - GRAA provided technical and staff support to the Premier in the development and advancement of Saskatchewan's position in relation to the new National Health Council and the Council of the Federation, as well as administrative reform issues dealing with such matters as senate appointments.

- Participate in negotiations to conclude a final self-government agreement between the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC), Canada and Saskatchewan, and to commence its implementation. [2003-04 planned result]
  - GRAA has played a support role in negotiations to conclude a self-government agreement between the Meadow Lake Tribal Council, Canada and Saskatchewan. Negotiations are ongoing.
  - On January 22, 2001, Canada, Saskatchewan, and seven Meadow Lake First Nations signed the MLTC self-government agreements-in-principle that committed the parties to enter second-phase negotiations leading to final agreements for on-reserve self-government. The agreements-in-principle continue to serve as the basis for the parties to negotiate a final agreement. A draft final agreement was not completed as of March 31, 2004, because the parties were at an impasse over a parallel but separate process dealing with off-reserve matters through the Framing Agreement on Traditional Territories and Non-Resident Citizens. The parties are of the view that there must be progress on the Framing Agreement in order to conclude a final agreement dealing with on-reserve self-government.

- Participate in negotiations for a comprehensive, final self-government agreement between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), Canada and Saskatchewan. [2003-04 planned result]
  - GRAA played a lead role in the development and negotiation of an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) that will form the basis for the negotiation of a self-government agreement between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Canada and Saskatchewan. Community consultations are currently underway related to the AIP. Formal negotiations on a self-government agreement will commence following the approval of the AIP.

- Provide strategic and policy advice and support, intra- and inter-departmentally, on the full range

of issues with intergovernmental policy implications. [2003-04 planned result]

- GRAA provided strategic and policy advice and support to the provincial government on a range of issues that have intergovernmental implications including Kyoto/climate change, the Action Committee on the Rural Economy (ACRE), the establishment of a National Diamond Strategy, and the duty to consult First Nations and Métis people, as well as a host of Saskatchewan grievances ranging from equalization funding to the cleanup of abandoned uranium mines in Northern Saskatchewan.

- Lead intra- and inter-governmental work in implementing the Social Union Framework Agreement (SUFA) and ensure Saskatchewan's interests, objectives and obligations are being met. [2003-04 planned result]

  - GRAA prepared an update on SUFA implementation and finalized the Third-Year Review of the SUFA.

- Monitor emerging trends and policies in other jurisdictions by establishing and maintaining contacts with appropriate officials. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The summer and fall of 2003 was a period of transition with elections held in many provinces as well as a change in leadership of the federal government. GRAA monitored these events and assessed the impact that changes might have on federal-provincial relations generally, as well as particular issues such as urban infrastructure financing and fiscal relations.

- Staff and coordinate the preparation of briefing material for the Premier's participation in First Ministers' Meetings, Annual and Western Premiers' Conferences, and bilateral meetings with federal and provincial counterparts. [2003-04 planned result]

  - GRAA staffed and coordinated the preparation of briefing materials for the Premier's participation in the Western Premiers' Conference and the Annual Premiers' Conference. Issues that were discussed at the Western Premiers' Conference included agriculture, disaster financial assistance, climate change, infrastructure and trade, as well as health, children and post-secondary education. The Annual Premiers' Conference focused on health, fiscal imbalance, and trade.

- Provide intergovernmental advice and support to executive government in advancing Saskatchewan's priorities and interests to the federal government. It is anticipated that work related to this activity during 2003-04 will focus primarily on:

  (a) Implementation of the First Ministers' Accord on Health, including its implications on the operation of the Social Union Framework Agreement and the development of Aboriginal and northern health initiatives. [2003-04 planned result]

  - GRAA's focus was on implementation issues associated with the First Ministers' Accord on Health, and in particular, implementation of the health council and issues related to funding for services provided under the Accord.

  (b) Efforts within the federation to address issues of vertical and horizontal equity in federal-provincial-territorial fiscal arrangements. [2003-04 planned result]

  - GRAA provided advice and coordination interdepartmentally respecting the renewal of equalization funding and introduction of the new Canada Health Transfer and Canada Social Transfer.
  - Fiscal arrangements in support of health care and other social programs remains an issue of ongoing discussion between governments. Saskatchewan, together with other provinces and the three territories, has made this the number one

priority to be advanced through the Council of the Federation.

(c) Other issues, including skills and innovation; renegotiating the arrangements related to the Cold Lake (Primrose) Air Weapons Range; and Kyoto implementation. [2003-04 planned result]

- GRAA's efforts during the period under review were focused on the development of a Saskatchewan response and strategy related to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, ongoing strategic work respecting cost-sharing the clean-up of abandoned uranium mines, ACRE, and advancing Saskatchewan's interests on other issues with the federal government, including the Cold Lake (Primrose) Air Weapons Range issue and the Agriculture Policy Framework. While some progress has been achieved, several key issues of importance to Saskatchewan remain outstanding.

■ Improve the strategic focus of the province's international relations by: (i) completing draft development of the strategic policy/program framework document; (ii) undertaking internal and external consultations to secure agreement on the recommendations of the strategic framework document and finalize document; (iii) continuing strategic initiatives in the U.S.; (iv) beginning initiatives in other priority countries; (v) continuing implementation of the work plans with our Chinese and South African provincial twins, Jilin and Free State respectively, as well as Ukraine; and (vi) serving the Premier for Team Canada missions. [2003-04 planned result]

- an initial draft of the strategic policy/program framework was completed and revisions commenced based on internal review.
- an internal review of the strategic framework document was completed. Interdepartmental and external reviews of a second draft will occur during 2004-05.
- the status of positioning strategies for initiatives was as follows as of March 31, 2004:

(i) United States
- completed a first draft of a strategic positioning strategy considering Saskatchewan's key interests in economic matters such as trade, investment, immigration and tourism and determined strategies to support its interests;
- pursued corporate strategic initiatives through participation of the Premier in the Western Governors Association's Annual General Meeting in Big Sky, Montana; participation of Ministers and MLAs in the Midwestern Legislative Conference (Council of State Governments) meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; incoming visits of the U.S. Consul General; and participation in an intergovernmental working group developing new mechanisms for improving Canada-U.S. relations.

(ii) Mexico
- initiated work on a strategic positioning strategy for Mexico.

(iii) Other
- participated in federal-provincial working groups on emerging markets (e.g., China, India, Brazil).
- continued implementation of the work plans with our Chinese and South African twins, Jilin and Free State respectively, as well as Ukraine.
- no Team Canada missions took place during this time period.

Measurement Results
A performance measure related to this objective was under development during 2003-04.

Objective 2 – Working within the scope of its jurisdictional responsibilities, Saskatchewan uses immigration to support its economic and labour market objectives, and works with other governments, stakeholders and communities to help in the effective settlement of immigrants and refugees.

Over the past two decades, Saskatchewan's share of immigration to Canada has dropped significantly.

While immigration is primarily a federal responsibility, there are actions the province can take to attract more skilled workers and economic immigrants to the province and help settle and retain immigrants and refugees when they arrive. This can contribute to meeting Saskatchewan's labour market needs, its economic development, and its diversity.

In spite of limited resources, the department advanced its goal to use immigration as a strategic activity to support the province's economic and labour market objectives. The department exceeded its expectations in attaining nominees under the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) and extended or began new projects intended to attract health professionals and farm owner/operators. In addition, the department started a pilot project to test market demand for long-haul truckers with the Saskatchewan Trucking Association and the federal government. The department also increased its international marketing efforts.

Key Results

- Consult with employers and stakeholders to gain a better understanding of current and long term labour market needs and economic development opportunities that can be addressed by economic immigration and foreign labour. This will include Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program initiatives of:
  - (a) Nomination of an estimated 100 principal applicants under the program. [2003-04 planned result]
    - We exceeded our target of 100 principal applicants by 80 by the end of fiscal 2003-04.
  - (b) Expansion of a pilot project initially operated with the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan to nominate foreign-trained physicians across the province as part of a newly-created health professions category. [2003-04 planned result]
    - The pilot project was extended to all Regional Health Authorities with the creation of a new health professions category at the start of the fiscal year, with 63 physicians nominated as of March 31, 2004.
  - (c) Promotion of the recently created SINP categories of Farm Owners/Operators internationally, and Critical Impact Employees and Existing Work Permit categories to Saskatchewan employers. [2003-04 planned result]
    - Promotion of the new SINP categories was accomplished through the SINP website, through promotional ads cost-shared with Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization in overseas agricultural publications, creating awareness among farmland realtors, and through meetings with Saskatchewan employers and industry associations.
  - (d) Development of regional immigration initiatives to promote immigration to Saskatchewan in conjunction with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, multicultural agencies in Saskatchewan, and other community partners. [2003-04 planned result]
    - A range of regional immigration initiatives are being pursued with Citizenship and Immigration Canada involving recruitment in the United Kingdom, Germany, the Ukraine, Korea and the Netherlands, and initiatives involving foreign student recruitment and the federal temporary worker program. We established a pilot project with the Saskatchewan Trucking Association and the federal government to bring in 120 long haul truckers to Saskatchewan on temporary work permits who may subsequently be nominated for permanent landed status.
  - (e) Consultation on the potential benefit of nominating foreign nurses under SINP within the Health Professions category. [2003-04 planned result]

- Discussions were held with nursing associations, the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses, and a joint committee on Health Human Resources (provincial government and health regions) on the subject of market demand for nurses. These consultations led to the addition of foreign-educated nurses with work experience in Saskatchewan to the SINP Health Professions category in September 2003. Six nurses were nominated by the end of the fiscal year.

- Consult stakeholders on the potential for using the SINP to nominate foreign students graduating in Saskatchewan who may contribute to the province's economy. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Discussions have been held with Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions and Saskatchewan Learning on adapting the SINP to include foreign students graduating from Saskatchewan institutions who have gained work experience in Saskatchewan. An initial proposal was circulated for comment in September.

- Enrich the domestic and international marketing strategy of the SINP. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Discussions were initiated with overseas government agencies promoting international work placements and international emigration fairs were attended in the United Kingdom, Netherlands (2), Belgium and Korea. Domestic marketing efforts continued to focus on promotion of the SINP with Saskatchewan employers and industry associations and attendance at provincial business and trade events.

- The department will measure the implementation of the Next Steps section of the Meeting Needs and Making Connections Report, including the following:

  (a) Government and non-government agencies and other community stakeholders' support for the establishment of a provincial Settlement and Integration Planning Council and four local Settlement and Integration Coordinating Committees in Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The membership of the Provincial Planning Council and the four local Coordinating Committees was finalized in September 2003. Immigrant and refugee community representatives have been appointed to the Planning Council and four local Coordinating Committees. Membership in the Planning Council and Saskatoon Coordinating Committee has been expanded to include representatives from the employer community.

  (b) Attendance and frequency of meetings of the Council/Coordinating Committees. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The first meeting of the Provincial Planning Council was held in May 2003, with two subsequent meetings in September 2003 and February 2004. The Regina, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert Coordinating Committees met for the first time in June 2003, with two subsequent meetings taking place before the end of the 2003-04 fiscal year. The Prince Albert Coordinating Committee first met in June 2003, and has met once subsequently. The Saskatoon Coordinating Committee met for the first time in September 2003, with three subsequent meetings taking place before the end of the 2003-04 fiscal year. Planning Council and Coordinating Committee members attendance has been good (86 per cent).

(c) Recommendations and progress made by the Council/Coordinating Committees toward addressing information-sharing, program and service coordination, and policy issues affecting settlement and retention of newcomers at the provincial and local levels. [2003-04 planned result]

- A framework and set of priorities for Planning Council were agreed to at the June meeting. Local Coordinating Committees are identifying actions that may improve information sharing and service coordination within their communities.

(d) Endorsement by Council/Coordinating Committee members of information-sharing strategies and work plans. [2003-04 planned result]

- Participants in Planning Council Working Groups met by conference call (eight in total) between September 8-18, 2003, to discuss possible initiatives to address priorities identified under the work plan framework established by the Planning Council. Based on discussions and feedback from participants, the Immigration Branch is preparing draft work plans for the Planning Council's review. A Planning Council work plan was developed and reviewed by Council members.

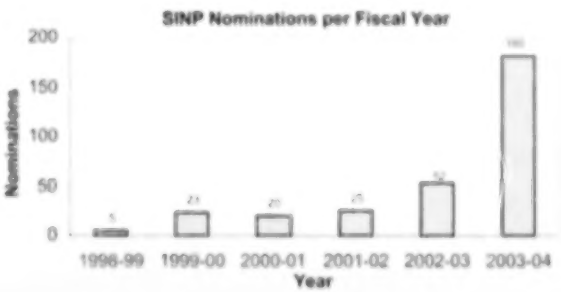
  Priority areas for further work plan development have been identified. The Moose Jaw Coordinating Committee has adopted a Committee work plan. The local committees in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert have identified a set of priorities for work plan development.

(e) Progress made by Council/Coordinating Committees toward effective implementation of information-sharing strategies and work plans. [2003-04 planned result]

- Planning Council has identified priorities for work plan implementation during 2004-05. The Moose Jaw Committee will be implementing identified work plan priorities during 2004-05 fiscal year. The Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert Coordinating Committees will be finalizing and implementing work plans in 2004-05.

Measurement Results

Number of provincial nominees per year under the SINP.



Source: GRAA-SINP program data.

In 2003-04 the department nominated 180 people under the SINP program, 128 more than the previous year.

Continued improvement of performance is dependent on awareness of the program among people interested in immigrating to Canada. Competition for potential immigrants is increasing internationally and nationally. The department is enhancing its performance by increasing international marketing efforts, and is making contact with publicly-funded employment services in targeted countries. The involvement of employers seeking nominees from priority targeted sectors is a factor in the performance of the program. Targeted sectors include health professions, manufacturing trades, agricultural trades, and skilled workers where Saskatchewan's labour market is not keeping up with the demand for employees.

Objective 3 – Market access for Saskatchewan's exports is increased in a manner consistent with the government's economic, social, environmental and Aboriginal development policies/strategies.

Saskatchewan is one of the most trade-oriented provinces in Canada – 67 per cent of all the goods and services it produces are exported either to international or other Canadian markets. Negotiating enhanced and secure access to other markets is, therefore, essential to the province's current and future economic performance. Such access creates the opportunity for Saskatchewan producers, businesses and cooperatives to further expand their operations and sales, which in turn contributes both to the growth of our economy, the ability of the government to raise the revenues necessary to re-invest in the economy and social services. The province's formal economic development strategy, *Partnership for Prosperity*, calls for an increase in non-traditional exports by 2005. This objective will assist in the achievement of that objective.

During 2003-04, the department provided strategic and policy advice on a variety of trade-related priorities to successfully support this objective.

Key Results

- Identify/achieve Saskatchewan's objectives in priority international and domestic trade negotiating forums. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The department continued to identify, with internal and external stakeholders, Saskatchewan's specific objectives in the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO), Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), and successfully negotiate their acceptance by the Government of Canada, and by other provinces/territories in the case of the AIT.
  - Specifically, the department:

    - Participated in the September 2003 WTO ministerial meetings in Cancun, Mexico to aggressively pursue Saskatchewan's agricultural negotiating objectives, which are generally shared by the Government of Canada.
    - Gained general acceptance from the federal government on Saskatchewan's objectives at the WTO service negotiations related to health, education, social services and culture.
    - Continued to pursue clarification of key aspects of the NAFTA provisions, particularly investment, and initiated analysis of Saskatchewan interests in NAFTA-Plus trade agenda.
    - Initiated a review and identification of new approaches for Saskatchewan's role and potential participation in international labour and environmental cooperation agreements.
    - Engaged with other provinces/ territories in the new Council of the Federation work plan on internal trade, and re-engaged in the ongoing operation of, and negotiations within, the AIT.
    - Supported the development of the Council of the Federation work plan on the provincial/territorial role in international forums, including trade negotiations.
    - Initiated new trade policy research program internally.

- Successfully defend Saskatchewan measures/ interests in priority trade disputes. [2003-04 planned result]

  - In concert with local stakeholders and the federal government, defended the province's market access and other trade-related interests in current trade disputes such as with the United States on softwood lumber, wheat, live swine and the U.S. Farm Act. Specifically, the department:

    - Continued to fully defend provincial government and softwood lumber interests in the U.S. countervailing duty investigation against Canadian softwood lumber exports under U.S. trade laws, and in NAFTA and WTO dispute settlement mechanisms.
    - Successfully negotiated a Saskatchewan-specific, policy-based 'exit ramp' from U.S. countervailing duties on Saskatchewan

softwood exporters with the U.S. Department of Commerce.
- Maintained a full-scale defense of provincial interests in the U.S. countervailing duty investigation against Canadian hard red spring and durum wheat.
- Initiated a full-scale defense of provincial interests in the U.S. countervailing duty investigation against Canadian live swine launched in March 2004.
- Continued to work with Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization to pursue with the federal government actions that should be taken to challenge the trade-distorting aspects of the U.S. Farm Act and other U.S. agricultural programs.
- Initiated analyses to determine if Saskatchewan should join with Alberta and British Columbia in potential challenges of Ontario measures related to the manufacture and sale of edible oil products and Quebec measures related to margarine colouration under the dispute remedy provisions of the AIT.

Measurement Results
A performance measure related to this objective was under development during 2003-04.

Goal 4 – Respectful, effective municipal-provincial relationships that strengthen the quality of local governance for the benefit of Saskatchewan residents.

Objective 1 – Department services and provincial funding that strategically assist municipal governments in governing and meeting the needs of their residents.

Municipalities need provincial advisory and technical assistance and funding in order to meet the needs of their residents. The department works with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA), the Rural Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (RMAAS), the Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS) and the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities (SANC) to build planning and administrative capacity in municipalities and provide funding to ensure good local government and that provincial and public interests are protected.

The department made good progress in achieving the objective. The training programs and workshops have increased municipal capacity. The infrastructure funding provided to water and sewer projects will increase the number of communities that can provide safe drinking water to their residents. Increased revenue sharing will help municipalities provide services to their residents.

Key Results
- With the urban, rural and northern municipal associations, develop and deliver learning and professional opportunities for urban and rural administrators and councilors to build planning and administrative capacity in municipalities. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, the department:
    - Designed a Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP) to provide professional development and delivery to elected and appointed officials and developed five workshop modules. The program was officially announced on September 19, 2003, with workshop delivery beginning in October;
    - Delivered nine technical presentations to municipalities on recent legislative changes;
    - Developed and delivered seven technical workshops to urban municipal administrators on local government election processes and procedures; and
    - In northern Saskatchewan, in cooperation with New North, presented eight workshops to northern municipal officials, including: roles and responsibilities of elected officials, election procedures, tax enforcement, financial reporting, budgeting and software operation, and delivered three MLDP modules; and
    - Developed and implemented a video conferencing project to assist in the

delivery of training workshops in northern Saskatchewan. Video conferencing sites were set up in eight communities.

- Develop and monitor municipal capacity indicators. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, the department:
    - Monitored the number of municipalities filing financial statements that met Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) standards and were filed on time and electronically;
    - Adapted a municipal viability checklist to become part of the *Guide to Voluntary Municipal Restructuring*; and;
    - Had underway development of municipal election information for the Municipal Directory, which includes information on elections, incumbents, and voter turnout that is relevant to municipal capacity considerations.

- Implement a new financial information return in a format that meets PSAB standards for local government and provide related training for municipal staff. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Workshops were delivered to northern municipal administrators in May and September 2003, which covered the new reporting format and requirements. Workshops also took place in November 2003, and February 2004, on budgeting and financial management.
  - Training on financial reporting was provided to southern municipalities in the previous year.

- Improve existing and develop interactive web-based resources for municipal officials and the general public. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The department:
    - Processed 93 changes to the Municipal Relations Division website, which included eight new manuals and guides, 12 sample bylaws and various on-line application forms;
    - Implemented an on-line Municipal Directory System that lets municipal officials update their contact information over the internet; and
    - Formed a municipal technology committee with municipal partners to explore the use of emerging technologies in service delivery and local capacity building.

- Provide $9.2 million in multi-year federal-provincial funds to 43 communities for upgrades to their water and waste water systems under the Canada-Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program (CSIP), the Northern Water and Sewer Program (NWSP), and assist the NRSTA Management Board in delivering the Northern Emergency Water and Sewer Program (NEWSP). This will include $949,000 for the City of North Battleford. Another $2.9 million will be invested in four solid waste projects, including the construction of a new landfill in Prince Albert. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The following projects were approved/ announced in 2003-04:
    - 32 water supply and 10 sewer projects were approved and announced for $6.4 million of 2003-04 federal-provincial CSIP funding;
    - Four water and sewer projects were announced for $3 million of federal-provincial CSIP funding for the 2002-03 fiscal year. This included $949,000 for the North Battleford treatment facility.
    - A new sanitary landfill for the City of Prince Albert was announced for $2.4 million of federal-provincial CSIP funding for the 2002-03 fiscal year. Also $.5 million was announced for three other landfill projects for the 2003-04 fiscal year.

  - As of March 31, 2004, the following expenditures were made:
    - $13.5 million of provincial and federal CSIP funding had been spent on 33 water and sewer projects approved in 2003-04 and on 45 multi-year projects approved in prior years;
    - $5.3 million was spent on 18 projects in 15 northern communities under the NWSP

and a strategy was developed to address the funding shortfall in the program; and
- In 2003, $394,826 was spent by the NRSTA on 18 projects in 14 northern communities under the NEWSP.

- Support other municipal infrastructure needs and responsibilities under the CSIP, such as local transportation, solid waste and energy efficiency projects. [2003-04 planned result]

  - 14 transportation, solid waste and energy efficiency projects were approved for CSIP funding.
  - By the end of March 31, 2004, $8.6 million of provincial and federal CSIP funding was spent on 24 transportation, solid waste, high speed internet access and energy efficiency projects.

- Assist municipalities to deliver special needs transportation services by funding the purchase or replacement of 17 transit vehicles (five new and 12 replacement) and operating expenditures for people with disabilities, bringing the total to 126 vehicles in the provincial fleet under the Municipal Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Funding was approved through the Municipal Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program and the Centenary Fund for five new and 13 replacement transit vehicles, bringing the total to 126 vehicles in the provincial fleet.

- Provide funding for the North in 2003-04, including:

  (a) A $797,000 (15.4 per cent) increase in Northern Revenue Sharing, increasing the total grant funding from $5.2 million to almost $6 million. [2003-04 planned result]

  - An additional $797,000 (an increase of 15.4 per cent) was provided by the provincial government to Northern Revenue Sharing, for a total of $5.98 million in Northern Revenue Sharing in 2003-2004.

  (b) $4.9 million for the Northern Water and Sewer Program for 24 projects under development in 18 communities. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, approximately $5.3 million was spent on 18 projects. In addition, 24 housing upgrades were also undertaken to fit houses with plumbing connections at a cost of approximately $15,000 per house.
  - The Northern Capital Grant Program was renewed for a further five years in 2003. In 2003-04, 38 projects were funded for a total of about $730,000.

- Under the Centenary Fund, provide $4.1 million of municipal infrastructure funding for 24 projects, as well as funding to support the expansion of the Government House Centennial Project. [2003-04 planned result]

  - $4.7 million of Centenary Fund municipal infrastructure funding was approved for 22 projects. $1.4 million was committed to Government House for the 2003-04 fiscal year.

    Actual expenditures were $4.4 million on 27 projects, including Government House, Northern Water and Sewer, municipal infrastructure, and paratransit vehicles.

- Increase revenue sharing for urban and rural municipalities by 15.4 per cent, increasing total grants to $36.7 million and $32.3 million respectively. [2003-04 planned result]

  - $9.2 million in additional revenue sharing (an increase of 15.4 per cent) was provided to urban and rural municipalities, with total grants at $36.7 million and $32.3 million respectively. The government also committed to an additional $10 million in revenue sharing in 2004-05.

- In addition to the above, the department also:

  - Assisted in the facilitation and review of the Great Sand Hills Land Use Strategy;
  - Provided funding to a SARM program that assists rural municipalities with the costs of restructuring;
  - Worked with the municipal associations to develop *A Guide to Voluntary Municipal Restructuring;*
  - Developed a *Municipal Boundary Manual* to ensure consistent internal decisions and processes regarding boundary alternations, incorporations and municipal status changes;
  - Partnered with Saskatchewan Environment to develop a process to formally implement the La Ronge Integrated Land Use Management Plan; and
  - Established an interdepartmental committee that addressed many of the concerns raised by residents of Uranium City.
  - Announced funding of $4 million toward the capital costs associated with the riverbank development project in Saskatoon's south downtown area.

Measurement Results

Number of municipalities whose financial reporting statements are compliant with Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) standards.

	As of March 31, 2003 (based on the 2002 municipal calendar year)
Urban municipalities (cities, towns and villages)	78 %
Rural municipalities	64 %*
Northern municipalities	0 %

Source: GRAA using financial statements from municipalities.

*The performance plan published in GRAA's 2002-03 Annual Report indicates the starting point for rural municipalities was 60 per cent as at June 2003. The department has adjusted this number based on updates received from rural municipalities after its 2002-03 Annual Report was published.

2002 was the first year financial statements were required to be compliant with PSAB standards. 2003 results are not yet available because 2003 municipal financial statements are due by July 1, 2004. The department tracks compliance by a percentage calculation. For example, the total number of urban municipalities that met PSAB requirements by the total number of urban municipalities. The department enhances performance by working in partnership with municipal associations to provide training to administrators. The department also follows up with individual municipalities on reporting errors to obtain correct information and provide information on accurate reporting. An external risk factor is the number of new municipal administrators being hired who are not familiar with PSAB standards.

Number of transit vehicles replaced annually.

2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
20	19	18

Source: Department database on Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program.

This measure has been removed from the department's 2004-05 performance plan and replaced with measures that more accurately gauge progress towards the objective. This measure was short-term in nature, gauging the department's progress in replacing transit vehicles under the Centenary Fund, which was in place for a four-year period (ending in 2003-04) to support infrastructure renewal in preparation for the province's centennial in 2005.

Objective 2 – A respectful and positive relationship between the provincial government and municipal partners and other interest groups.

A respectful and positive relationship is needed between the provincial government and its municipal partners and other interest groups to be able to work together in a collaborative manner to ensure that the needs of Saskatchewan residents are met. The department works with SUMA, SARM, RMAAS, UMAAS, SANC, the cities and other organizations to ensure mechanisms are in place for open communication.

The successful implementation of a number of initiatives resulted in significant progress in meeting this objective during 2003-04, as demonstrated by very positive results in the stakeholder satisfaction survey that was recently conducted.

Key Results

- Coordinate a maximum of six municipal/provincial and northern municipal round tables and facilitate department participation at up to 25 municipal association regional meetings, district meetings and conventions. [2003-04 planned result]
  - In February 2004, the roundtables were replaced with a new Municipal Forum, which is a process for the provincial government and the urban and rural municipal sectors to work collaboratively to coordinate and address key municipal issues.
  - As of March 31, 2004, three roundtables (one southern and two northern) and two Municipal Forums were coordinated and the department attended 28 municipal association meetings and events (six conventions and 16 regional/district and annual meetings and six other special purpose events). Roundtables scheduled for October and November were postponed due to the provincial election.

- Coordinate a minimum of three formal sessions of the department/municipal partners steering committee of senior executives to develop programs, services and partnerships. [2003-04 planned result]
  - As of March 31, 2004, three steering committee meetings were held.

- Maintain liaison with New North and the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account (NRSTA) Management Board on northern issues. [2003-04 planned result]
  - As of March 31, 2004, five meetings were held with the NRSTA Management Board and two roundtables were coordinated with New North. The department also partnered with New North on northern training initiatives and the video conferencing project.

- In addition to the above, in 2003-04 the department undertook a survey on client/municipal partner satisfaction regarding the Municipal Relations Division. The survey indicated that:
  - 78 per cent were satisfied with the way information was shared;
  - 78 per cent were satisfied with the formal and informal consultations;

- 82 per cent were satisfied with the partnership and joint initiatives between municipal relations and municipal partners;
- 86 per cent were satisfied with participation in municipal partner events; and
- 84 per cent were satisfied with the working relationship.

Measurement Results
A performance measure related to this objective was under development during 2003-04. The department's 2004-05 performance plan contains a measure to gauge progress toward this objective in future years.

Objective 3 – A legislative framework that provides clear municipal and provincial responsibilities and balances local autonomy with provincial and public interests.

For efficient and effective government, it is important that the roles and responsibilities of local governments and the provincial government are clearly defined in legislation, that local governments have the authority and flexibility to deal with local issues and that provincial involvement is removed where there is no overriding provincial interest. At the same time, local governments should be accountable and public interests must be protected. The department consults with SARM, SUMA, RMAAS, UMAAS, SANC, the cities and other organizations regarding legislative changes.

During 2003-04, the department enhanced its efforts on the municipal legislative framework objective by working with urban and rural associations on the draft of a consolidated urban/rural act, and improvements and enhancements to other municipal acts.

Key Results

- Review options for consolidating the municipal acts. Depending on the final decision, prepare and present a consolidated municipal act for the 2004 or 2005 Legislative Session. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The department, SARM and SUMA established a working committee and are drafting a consolidated urban/rural act with the goal to have it ready for consultations and a possible introduction in the fall 2004 Legislative Session.

- Review the *Northern Municipalities Act* to modernize and to consolidate with other municipal acts. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The department reviewed the need for greater consistency with other acts in the authority to pay revenue sharing grants. Amendments will be made to the act in the 2004 Legislative Session.

- Monitor, refine and ensure implementation of *The Cities Act*, including establishment by the cities of the required bylaws and administrative review bodies by January 1, 2004. [2003-04 planned result]

  - A number of administrative and minor policy amendments were prepared and passed in the 2003 Legislative Session and additional changes were prepared for introduction in the 2004 Session.
  - As of January 1, 2004, 11 of the 12 cities passed a bylaw to establish administrative review boards. By February 2004, all 12 had bylaws in place and five had established review bodies.

- Review *The Planning and Development Act, 1983* to clarify provincial and municipal interests, enhance opportunities for inter-municipal cooperation, and require municipalities to put in place drinking water and watershed protection bylaws. [2003-04 planned result]

  - As of March 31, 2004, GRAA had developed draft statements of provincial interest and a background paper comparing planning systems in other jurisdictions and had undertaken initial consultation with stakeholders on the review of *The Planning and Development Act, 1983*.

- A planning model concept was completed. The new planning act and implementation of the municipal planning bylaws to protect drinking water sources will be coordinated with the phase-in implementation of the watershed plans by the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.
- Amendments to *The Planning and Development Act, 1983* were prepared and introduced into the 2004 Legislative Session to streamline the surface lease registration process.

■ Prepare, consult and put in place regulations that require municipalities to have water system pricing and investment strategies in place by 2005. [2003-04 planned result]

- Amendments to the RMA, the UMA , the NMA, and the CA were passed in 2002 that provide regulation-making powers to require municipalities to establish and report on pricing and capital investment policies for their water and sewer works. By March 31, 2004 consultations within government on these proposed regulations had been completed. To coordinate with Environment's regulatory requirements, the regulations will require municipalities to establish and publicly report on waterworks pricing and capital investment strategies by July 1, 2006.

Measurement Results
A performance measure related to this objective was under development during 2003-04.

Objective 4 – A property tax system that is fair, transparent and understandable and reflects provincial interests.

Each year about $1.1 billion is collected by municipalities in municipal and school property taxes. It is important that the property tax system is fair and that Saskatchewan people understand the property tax system and how their property taxes are determined. The department consults with SUMA, SARM, UMAAS, RMAAS, the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) and commercial and residential groups in its efforts to ensure appropriate tax tools are available to the municipalities and to set percentages of value for revaluations. These consultations also support GRAA in providing advice to government on the funding, structure, transparency and accountability of SAMA.

In 2003-04 the department supported the policy and legislative decisions made by government to create greater stability for the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) through increased funding, changes to governance structure and the establishment of new quality assurance processes. These changes support recommendations from the Commission on Financing Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education in the report released in January 2004.

In addition, the department completed and released a review on the use of local property tax tools and plans to consult with relevant groups on policy decisions in 2004-05, and refined its model to project assessment and tax shifts in conjunction with the 2005 revaluation.

Key Results
■ Review of Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency's (SAMA) funding needs. Legislative changes may be proposed for the 2004 Legislative Session, depending on results from the Education Financing Commission. [2003-04 planned result]

- The Education Commission recommended that SAMA, local governments and the province should create greater stability in the assessment system. Government decisions have been made on funding, governance and quality assurance that will ensure a strengthened, stabilized, sustainable, transparent and more accountable assessment system. The education sector will provide funding to SAMA from the education foundation operating grant funds. $750,000 will be provided in 2004-05 and an additional $875,000 in each of the following years to reach a level of $2.5 million annually. The governance of SAMA is to be changed to include two representatives from the

Saskatchewan School Boards Association and more provincial representatives. The assessment roll confirmation and quality assurance processes will be changed to strengthen the integrity, transparency and accountability of the assessment system.
- Legislation changes were prepared.

- Complete a review of local property tax tools respecting limits, authority, application and removing redundancies. Timing of this may be affected by the Education Financing Commission. [2003-04 planned result]

  - A review of the local property tax tools was completed in 2002 and updated in 2003. The department has released the report and will consult with relevant groups in 2004-05. The report is available on the department's website at the following address: *http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/mrd/taxtoolreview.shtml*

- Prepare for the 2005 revaluation. In 2003-04, update and test the model. In 2004, when the preliminary assessment data from the assessing authorities is received, develop options for the new percentages of value for 2005. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The model to project assessment and tax shifts in conjunction with the 2005 revaluation was refined in preparation for the 2005 revaluation. Preliminary assessment values were received from all the assessment service providers.
  - Consultations will be undertaken in the spring, and a decision will be required in the summer of 2004 on percentages of value for property classes to manage property tax shifts from the 2005 revaluation.

Measurement Results

A performance measure related to this objective was under development during 2003-04. The department's 2004-05 performance plan contains a measure to gauge progress toward this objective in future years.

Goal 5 – Saskatchewan's identity, heritage and the achievements of our people are honoured, promoted and celebrated.

Objective 1 – The province's recognition programs and symbols are reflective of our province's diversity.

It is important to have recognition programs and symbols in our society. Symbols officially represent who we are as Saskatchewan residents and what our economy and society are about. Recognition programs are a way of bestowing public recognition on deserving citizens who contribute to the well-being of us all. Our recognition programs and symbols should be reflective of the diversity of our society and will be measured by compiling statistics on recipients.

Significant progress was made during 2003-04 in support of this objective, most notably through the introduction of two new honours programs and a government-wide employee recognition program.

Key Results

- In nominations for provincial honours, increase the proportion of Aboriginal people, women and rural/small urban. [2003-04 planned result]

  - The department experienced an increase in the proportion of rural/small urban nominations. However, the proportion of nominations for First Nations and Métis people and women decreased.

- Plan further development of honours and awards. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Legislative amendments to establish the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal (SPSM) and the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal were passed in 2003, and the SPSM has been implemented. Developmental work is being done on a youth award during 2004.

- Establish a database for a full Honours and Awards Program, including the new medals

and employee recognition program. [2003-04 planned result]

- In 2003-04 the database was designed and installed. It will become operational in 2004-05. The database will allow the department to maintain a contact list and retain data for analysis.

- Implement government-wide Employee Recognition Program. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Completed. The *Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service* was designed and implemented. The Office of Protocol and Honours was also involved in the research which led to the adoption of a government-wide departmental recognition program.
  - A call for nominations for the 2004 Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service occurred in early 2004.

Measurement Results
The proportion of Aboriginal people, women and rural/small urban in the department's Honours and Awards program.

	2002-03	2003-04
Aboriginal	5%	4%
Women	37%	30%
Rural/ small urban	27%	32.5%

Source: GRAA – Honours and Awards nominations.

The proportion of rural/small urban nominations increased in 2003-04. However, the proportion of nominations for Aboriginal people and women decreased.

The department tracks performance in the above categories by a percentage calculation over total nominations received in each category. The department is attempting to enhance performance by promoting the program to as wide an audience as possible. However, there are limits on the human and financial resources available to encourage nominations for various categories in the Honours and Awards Program.

Measurement Results
The number of nominations received and the number of departments/agencies represented in nominations for the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service.

	2003-04 (first year of program)
Nominations received	41
Number of departments	16

Source: GRAA data from nominations.

The 2003-04 fiscal year was the first year for the program; therefore trend information and results information are not available.

The department promotes the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service program to public servants and external stakeholders through news releases and e-mails. The long-term success of this program will depend somewhat on previous years' successes.

Objective 2 – Government House Heritage Property is an integral part of Saskatchewan's centennial celebrations.

Commemoration of historical information and artifacts is an important way to honour our past. Government House Heritage Property is a National

Historic Site and had a significant role in shaping the political and social character of western Canada as it developed during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Government House is a working museum which serves as a landmark and legacy for residents of Saskatchewan.

The commencement of the construction of the addition to Government House Heritage Property during 2003-04 is a significant milestone in meeting this objective.

Key Results

- Produce media (radio, print, signage, bill boards) ads promoting, marketing and celebrating Government House as a tourism destination point. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Ads appeared in numerous Saskatchewan publications, Regina Transit busboards for 120 days, and in Tourism Regina and Tourism Saskatchewan major promotional publications.
  - 20,000 promotional pamphlets were distributed within Canada and U.S.A. Promotions also aired on two local radio networks for 120 days.

- Poll Saskatchewan residents to ensure promotional materials are broad-based and educational. [2003-03 planned result]

  - Polling was not conducted in 2003-04. The department expects to participate in a poll in 2004-05.

- Expand Government House with a major addition to enhance the existing property and program functions. [2003-04 planned result]

  - Construction of the Government House addition has begun and is anticipated to be complete by December 2004.

Measurement Results

Awareness of Government House Heritage Property.

	January 2002	2003-04
% of public awareness	51 %	n/a

Source: Provincial government omnibus polling data.

Given that only one poll has been conducted, trend information and measurement results are not available. The first poll was undertaken in January 2002, indicating 51 per cent awareness. Polling was not conducted in 2003-04. The department expects to poll for this measurement in 2004-05.

Lack of awareness may affect programming, which in turn, could affect visitorship. Advertising was undertaken in 2003-04 to increase awareness of Government House. A risk is limited resources available to promote Government House.

Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 5% and $100,000.

in thousands of dollars **Subvote/ Subprogram**	**Original Estimates**	**Actual Expenditures**	**Variance Over/ (Under)**	
Administration	**3,150**	**3,075**	**(75)**	
Accommodation and Central Services	**2,120**	**2,080**	**(40)**	
Intergovernmental Relations	**3,546**	**3,197**	**(349)**	
Federal-Provincial Relations	559	496	(63)	
International Relations	895	826	(69)	
Constitutional Relations	308	221	(87)	
Trade Policy	523	474	(49)	
Immigration	944	848	(96)	
Office of French-language Coordination	317	332	15	
Aboriginal Affairs	**56,122**	**54,412**	**(1,710)**	
Policy and Coordination	1,922	1,919	(3)	
Support for Aboriginal Organizations and Issues	1,210	1,543	333	1
Treaty Land Entitlements	22,286	20,237	(2,049)	2
First Nations Gaming Agreements	28,704	28,713	9	
Métis Development Fund	2,000	2,000	0	
Municipal Financial Assistance	**117,878**	**116,525**	**(1,353)**	
Urban Revenue Sharing	36,714	36,678	(36)	
Rural Revenue Sharing	32,356	32,406	50	
Northern Revenue Sharing	5,980	5,980	0	
Canada-Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program	21,558	21,550	(8)	
Transit Assistance for the Disabled	2,650	2,630	(20)	
Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes	12,800	11,461	(1,339)	3
SAMA (Authorized by Law)	4,000	4,000	0	
SAMA (Supplementary)	1,820	1,820	0	
Municipal Relations	**4,873**	**4,903**	**30**	
Provincial Secretary	**1,582**	**1,858**	**276**	
Lieutenant Governor's Office	400	474	74	
Office of Protocol and Honours	714	989	275	4
Government House	468	395	(73)	
Saskatchewan Municipal Board	**1,075**	**953**	**(122)**	
Administration – Local Government Committee	693	675	(18)	
Planning Appeals Committee	85	63	(22)	
Assessment Appeals Committee	297	215	(82)	
Subtotal	**190,346**	**187,003**	**(3,343)**	
Special Warrant Funding	0	0		
Statutory Adjustment	0	0		
Department Expenditure Total	**190,346**	**187,003**	**(3,343)**	

Explanations of Major Variances

1) Additional grant funding provided to Aboriginal organizations.

2) Expected new Treaty Land Entitlement settlements did not take place and delays in reserve creation reduced tax loss compensation payments.

3) Under expenditure as a result of revised property tax estimates provided by Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation.

4) Additional operating requirements primarily as a result of costs associated with the Royal Visit and the implementation of the Protective Services Medal.

In 2003-04, $170 million of the department's expenditures was provided to third parties. The majority of this amount was used to provide municipal financial assistance, provide payments related to the province's obligations under the First Nations gaming agreements, and for provincial obligations pursuant to Treaty Land Entitlement agreements.

Summary of Revenues

The department's major revenue relates to cost-shared agreements with the federal government and is collected on behalf of the government. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. A summary of the department's 2003-04 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than $100,000.

In thousands of dollars

Revenue Category	Budget	Actual Revenue	Variance Over/ (Under)	
Other Licenses and Permits	**225**	**283**	**58**	
Subdivision Fees	223	283	60	
Property and Building Rental	2	0	(2)	
Other Revenues	**41**	**83**	**42**	
Casual Revenue	26	3	(23)	
Refunds – Previous Year's Expenditures	15	80	65	
Realized Gain or Loss	0	0	0	
Sales, Service, Service Fees	**296**	**278**	**(18)**	
Sale of Maps, Publications	1	0	(1)	
Management Fees	200	200	0	
Municipal Directories	15	0	(15)	
Debenture Authorization	5	15	10	
Miscellaneous Services	5	5	0	
Other Service Fees	70	58	(12)	
Transfers from the Federal Government	**11,338**	**11,221**	**(117)**	
Canada-Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program	11,055	10,904	(151)	1
Government House Redevelopment Project	0	244	244	2
Office of French-language Coordination – Official Languages Agreements	283	73	(210)	3
Department Expenditure Total	**11,900**	**11,865**	**(35)**	

Explanation of Major Variances:

1. Reduced revenue as a result of uncompleted projects carried forward to the 2004-05 fiscal year.
2. Contributions received from Cultural Spaces Canada for the Government House redevelopment project.
3. Net decrease as a result of the redistribution of revenue to other departments for prior years' accounts payable adjustments for French-language services initiatives.

Financial Accountability Statement
From a fiscal accountability perspective, Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs is responsible for ensuring:

- Available funding goes to the highest priority needs;
- Value is obtained for the money provided;
- Compliance with existing legislation and regulations;
- Proper controls are in place to safeguard public assets; and
- Appropriate results are reported to the public and the legislature.

There are a number of checks and balances in place to ensure these responsibilities are met. They include:

Audited Results – The Provincial Auditor's Office has legislative responsibility to audit Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs and to publish the results.

Accountable to Legislature – Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs, like all government departments, is required to appear before the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature. In addition, the department's annual budget is published in the government's Budget Estimates. Other departmental spending is detailed in the Public Accounts, and the Minister of Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs appears before the Legislature's Committee of Finance.

Public Reporting – The Annual Report is one of several documents published by the department that helps to establish accountability.

Where to Obtain Additional Information

Additional information about GRAA is available on the department's website, viewable on the Internet at: *http://www.graa.gov.sk.ca*.

The website includes both general and more detailed information about the department, its programs and services, and legislation for which the department is responsible.

For further information about GRAA or to provide feedback about the department's 2003-04 Annual Report or its performance results, please contact us:

Phone: (306) 787-2635
E-mail: info@graa.gov.sk.ca

Mailing address
Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs
1855 Victoria Avenue
Regina SK S4P 3V7

Appendix — Legislation

The Department of Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs is responsible for the following pieces of legislation:

Municipal

- *The Assessment Appraisers Act*
- *The Assessment Management Agency Act*
- *The Border Areas Act*
- *The Cities Act*
- *The Community Planning Profession Act*
- *The Controverted Municipal Elections Act*
- *The Cut Knife Reference Act*
- *The Department of Rural Development Act* (subject to OC 177/93)
- *The Department of Urban Affairs Act*
- *The Flin Flon Extension of Boundaries Act, 1952*
- *The Lloydminster Municipal Amalgamation Act, 1930*
- *The Local Government Election Act*
- *The Local Improvements Act, 1993*
- *The Municipal Board Act*
- *The Municipal Debentures Repayment Act*
- *The Municipal Development and Loan (Saskatchewan) Act*
- *The Municipal Expropriation Act*
- *The Municipal Industrial Development Corporations Act*
- *The Municipal Reference Act*
- *The Municipal Revenue Sharing Act*
- *The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act*
- *The Municipality Improvements Assistance (Saskatchewan) Act*
- *The Northern Municipalities Act*
- *The Planning and Development Act, 1983*
- *The Rural Development Act*
- *The Rural Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Rural Municipality Act, 1989*
- *The Subdivisions Act*
- *The Tax Enforcement Act*
- *The Time Act*
- *The Urban Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Urban Municipality Act, 1984*

Aboriginal Affairs

- *The Department of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Regulations, 1998*
- *The Indian and Native Affairs Act*
- *The Métis Act*
- *The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act, Part III*
- *The Saskatchewan Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (Treaty Land Entitlement) Act*
- *The Treaty Land Entitlement Implementation Act*

Provincial Secretary

- *The Historic Properties Foundations Act*
- *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Act* (administered by Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs on behalf of the Premier of Saskatchewan)
- *The Provincial Secretary's Act and Regulations*